

WEEKLY CHURCH NEWS

December 28, 2025

St. Paul Lutheran Church
10792 North 210 East • Seymour, IN 47274
The Reverend Stephen Wood, Pastor

***OUR MISSION:** Walking in Faith – Sowing Christ’s Love*

**TODAY’S WORSHIP
LEADERS**

Leaders:
Intern Beth Sheedy

Organist: Olga Otte

Deacons:
Dan Holle; Karen Dringenburg

Communion Assistant:
Lou Ann Hoevenner (8:00)

Communion Prep:
Mandy Otte (8:00)

Lectors:
Mandy Otte (8:00)
Kendall Alstatt (10:15)

Acolytes:
Abe Engelau & Ben Rapp (8:00)
Henry Fountain (10:15)

Projectors:
Natalie Fish (8:00)
Marc Fountain (10:15)

Camera:
Tim England

Altar flowers are provided by:
Bill & Judy Wunning

St. Paul Lutheran Church is a congregation of The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (E.L.C.A.). It is referred to as “Borchers” since Rev. Henry Borchers, who served our congregation from 1857-1881, advised and influenced a small group of pioneer settlers that wanted to establish a congregation in the area. This year we celebrate 173 years of life and ministry. We look forward to many more years of growth and change as we seek continually to be faithful to God’s call to mission.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is offered at the 8:00 a.m. services on the 2nd and 4th Sundays and at the 10:15 a.m. service on the 1st and the 3rd Sundays of the month. Christians who believe in the true presence of Christ in the bread and wine for our forgiveness and salvation are invited to receive Holy Communion.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

STAFF

The Reverend Stephen Wood.....Pastor
Beth Sheedy.....Pastoral Intern
Trish Tangman.....Care Team Director
Jamie Baker.....Youth & Family Ministries
and Technology Director
Maddie Whiteside.....Youth & Family Ministries
Jennifer Duncan.....Borchers Preschool Director
Michelle Wood.....Secretary
Jennifer Duncan & Sam Plumlee.....Custodians

We gather today as God’s beloved children to worship our Heavenly Father. We praise his holy name, we listen eagerly for his words of comfort, hope, and challenge to us, and we offer ourselves to him in dedicated service. May you be blessed as you worship here today.

This week: December 28-January 3

Sunday 28th	8:00 am	Communion
	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:15 am	Worship
Monday 29th	NO PRESCHOOL	
	8:00 pm	Dartball—BYE week
Tues. 30th	NO KIDS BELLS	
Wed. 31st	NO PRESCHOOL	
Thurs. 1st	OFFICE CLOSED NO BORCHERS BREAKFAST CLUB	
Friday 2nd	OFFICE CLOSED NO PRESCHOOL	
Sat. 3rd	2:00 pm	Judy & Bill Wonning Anniv. Open House (until 4:00)

Pastor Steve & Michelle will be gone
on vacation December 26-January 2

Trish Tangman is gone on vacation
December 30-January 5

Next week: January 4-10

Sunday 4th	8:00 am	Worship
	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:15 am	Communion
Monday 5th	NO PRESCHOOL	
	1:00 pm	Blanket Making
	8:00 pm	Dartball at Wegan W
Tues. 6th	6:30 pm	Kids Bells
Wed. 7th	9:00 am	Preschool
	1:00 pm	Blanket Making
Thurs. 8th	9:00 am	Borchers Breakfast Club
	9:30 am	Tai Chi
	7:00 pm	Women's In-depth Bible study
Friday 9th	9:00 am	Preschool
Sat. 10th	9:00 am	Take down Christmas decorations

Pastor Steve is at Lutheran Outdoor
Ministries meeting on January 9 & 10

HEARING ASSISTANCE—We have headphones available for those in need of assistance with hearing. They are located on the table at the entrance of the sanctuary.

GLUTEN-FREE COMMUNION WAFERS—We have gluten-free communion wafers available. Indicate to the pastor when you come up for communion if you need these.

FOOD PANTRY—The food pantry item being collected in December is peanut butter. Please place your donations in the wooden box near the kitchen marked "Food Pantry", or in the basket near the main entry doors. Items will be taken to either Anchor House, Provisions or Jamestown Apartments.

TURNING POINT—In December, we are collecting new or gently used blankets (twin or full size) for Turning Point domestic violence shelter. There is a collection box near the kitchen.

ALTAR FLOWERS are in honor of Judy & Bill Wonning's 50th wedding anniversary .

The congregation is invited to celebrate
Judy & Bill Wonning's
50th Anniversary

Saturday, January 3, 2026 2:00-4:00 p.m.

St. Paul Lutheran fellowship hall

Your presence would be the greatest gift
as we commemorate this golden anniversary.

RSVP to wonningjudy@gmail.com

HELP NEEDED: Sunday School Snacks

Please sign up at the Welcome Center.

Plan to provide snacks for 60.

Suggestions are: fruit, muffins, donuts and prepackaged snacks.

Borchers Breakfast Club

WILL NOT MEET and January 1

Lutheran World Relief Blanket-Making

Beginning January 5 Monday and Wednesday at 1:00

We will meet from January thru the end of March to make blankets for Lutheran World Relief to send all over the world. Anyone is welcome to come help! No sewing experience required.

HOT SOUP IN A COLD MONTH

Beginning January 8

This annual tradition is a way to care for seniors in our community. Each person who attends Borchers Breakfast Club on a Thursday in January gets to take home a pint of homemade soup. When we have enough donated, soup is also delivered to a few additional folks in the area! If you are able and willing to donate any amount of soup toward this effort, please sign up at the Welcome Center. You can sign up for as little as one gallon of any type soup you like!

Women's In-Depth Bible Study

Thursday, January 8 and 22 at 7:00 p.m.

Be ready to watch Session 7. Any questions, talk to Mandy Otte.

Bless the New Parsonage with Scripture!

As the framing goes up on our new parsonage, everyone is invited to stop by and write a favorite Bible verse on the studs. Add a word of faith, hope, or blessing that will surround this home for years to come. There will be a container with Sharpies within the house. Everyone is invited to help in dedicating this space with God's Word! Any questions, please talk with Pastor Steve.

Altar Flower Sign-up Sheet

The new sheet for 2026 is available at the Welcome Center.

Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes are in the narthex. If you don't see your name and wish to have envelopes, please contact the church office.

Treasurer Books & Annual Reports

Due by January 11

Place them in the marked box in the church office.

Adult Sunday School

Beginning Sunday, January 11

Our Adult Sunday School class will begin a new study of the **Book of Daniel**. Daniel speaks to people of faith living in uncertain times—calling us to wisdom, courage, and steadfast hope when following God feels countercultural. Together we will explore Daniel's well-known stories, its vivid visions, and what they reveal about faithful living, prayerful resilience, and God's enduring sovereignty.

All adults are welcome—whether Daniel is familiar or brand new to you. Join us as we listen for God's promises, ask good questions, and encourage one another in faith.

Newsletter Deadline

January 11

Please give info to the church office.

Red Cross Blood Drive

Tuesday, January 20

1:00 – 6:00 p.m. In the fellowship hall

Please contact Joe Tormoehlen to schedule your donation time.

BOOK BUZZ

January 26 at 1:00 p.m.

We will discuss “*The Queens of Crime*” by Marie Benedict. We meet on the 4th Monday of the month at 1:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome!! Questions? Talk to Trish Tangman or Michelle Wood.

WEATHER CANCELLATION POLICY

Church services will be held, unless a travel ban has been issued for Jackson County. Please make your own decision if you want to venture out in inclement weather. **WE WANT EVERYONE TO BE SAFE! *If there is a travel ban in Jackson County, all church activities will also be cancelled.***

BORCHERS BREAKFAST CLUB

Borchers Breakfast Club will coincide with the Seymour School Corporation's decisions for school closings and delays. If Seymour schools are closed OR delayed, Borchers Breakfast Club will be CANCELLED. Please listen to WZZB 1390 AM or 99.3 FM, or watch for closings on television stations.

**December 28,
2025**

GOING DEEPER

The purpose of this page is to provide a tool or instrument for your spiritual growth. This page contains a brief synopsis of the readings as well as some questions for your reflection to help you go deeper with the Word. On the back is a day by day listing of scripture readings with possible prayer request. Individuals are listed on their day of birth—so that you might pray for them on their birthday. Also on the back is the prayer list for the congregation. Keep on Growing Spiritually!!

READINGS FOR THE DAY:

Isaiah 63:7-9: God does not delegate divine intervention to a messenger or an angel. God's own presence brings salvation. The prophet and all who read these words join in celebrating God's gracious deeds. God trusts that God's people will not act falsely.

Hebrews 2:10-18: Through Jesus' suffering and death, the trail to eternal salvation has been blazed for us. We do not fear death, because he has conquered the power of death. Thus Christ, our merciful and faithful high priest, has the final say over the destiny of our lives.

Matthew 2:13-23: In a dream, Joseph is warned to flee to Egypt to protect the infant Jesus from the jealousy of Herod.

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QUESTIONS TO PONDER:

1— Do you regularly take time to recount the gracious deeds of the Lord? If not, how could you make this a regular practice? (Isaiah 63:7-9)

2—How have you experienced Jesus helping you when you have been tested? (Hebrews 2:10-18)

3—How have hope and joy been mingled with loss or danger for you this past year? (Matthew 2:13-23)

4—How do these texts speak to you today?

Prayer: *O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity. Amen.*

NOTES

MEMORY VERSE: ISAIAH 63:7

⁷¹I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us, and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

GOING DEEPER IN PRAYER

Sunday 12/28

Psalm 127:1-5
Romans 6:1-23
✦ world peace

Monday 12/29

Psalm 128:1-6
Romans 7:1-25
✦ homeless shelters

Tuesday 12/30

Psalm 129:1-8
Romans 8:1-39
✦ Valerie McIntosh
✦ safety for people traveling

Wednesday 12/31

Psalm 130:1-8
Romans 9:1-33
✦ Erin Otte
✦ safety for people celebrating New Year's Eve

Thursday 1/1

Psalm 131:1-3
Romans 10:1-21
✦ Dot Goodwin, Bill Kidd
✦ for God's blessings in this new year

Friday 1/2

Psalm 132:1-18
Romans 11:1-36
✦ people seeking employment

Saturday 1/3

Psalm 133:1-3
Romans 12:1-21
✦ Clayton Wentz
✦ Christians in Turkey

PRAYER LIST

Recent Hospitalizations:

Adelee Davis (cancer—relative of Daryl Paswater)
Paul Otte

Other Prayer Requests:

Susie Alstatt (surgery)
Tammi Reinbold (knee surgery)
Waldron Rust (fall)
Betty Toxey (fall-grandmother of Erik Zakrzewski)
Gib Claycamp (fall)
Carol Browning
Red Angel (fall)
Jeff (thyroid removal—co-worker of Chris Otte)
Jaxon Reinhart (cancer—friend of Grant & Caleb Wheatley)
Hannah Young (health issues)
Dillon Williams (son-in-law of Tim & Kathy England)
Randy Bridgewater
(motorcycle accident—brother-in-law of David Bode)
Florence Otte (health)
Lawrence Monroe
Kim Dringenburg (health)
Patricia Lewis (cancer—Tim England's mother)
Steve McGrew (fall)
Don Ray (friend of Larry Guinn)
Bobby Akemon (cancer—friend of Jennie Hoene)
Brooke Elmore (cancer—friend of Tammi Reinbold)
Kevin Trask (cancer—friend of Chris Otte)
Linda Lloyd (medical—Tim England's aunt)
Olivia Sons (epileptic seizures—friend of Kathy England)
Ed Engelau (cancer)
Angie Lucas (cancer)
Wanda Zakrzewski (fall-grandmother of Erik Zakrzewski)
Dan Anderson (father of Rich Anderson)
Charlie Fox (father of Ben Fox)
Pastor John Wanamaker (cancer)
Bob Butcher (health issues—friend of Susie Alstatt)
Sandy Smith (Robert Smith's mother)
Courtney Hardebeck (illness—friend of Cassie Fox)
Pegi Bricker (spinal surgery—friend of Kendra Harris)
Megan White (leukemia—friend of Kendra Harris)
Monty Reynolds (prostate cancer—friend of Kathy England)
Hallie Crane (leukemia—friend of Heidi Wheatley)
Annie Walton (friend of Carrie Morrison)
Hannah & Jimmy Whitaker
(medical concerns—friends of Kathy England)
Paul Lewis (melanoma—step-dad of Tim England)
Mark Gillespie (cancer—friend of Charlotte Guinn)
Ernie Kleffman (back)
Treva & Danny Edwards
(health issues—relatives of Robert Smith)
Michelle Sallee (cancer—friend of Gretchen Lawles and Linda Guinn)

Prayer for Homebound Individuals:

Patty Herkamp; Selma Mellenbruch, Paul Newkirk, Sonna Wentz

Prayer for Long Term Care Issues:

Helen Carter; Andy Runge; Gavin Brown (friend of Leah Otte); Robert Noblitt (Chris Kleffman's father)

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE

We Worshipped:

December 21 — 8:00 service: 131 10:15 service: 56

Financial Report:

Financial report next week

{The weekly amount needed to cover expenses in the
2025 Spending Plan is \$7,354.00}

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR JANUARY 4:

Communion Assistant:

Mike Kruse (10:15))

Communion Prep:

Judy Wonning (10:15)

Lectors:

Ruth Ann Newkirk (8:00)

Judy Wonning (10:15)

Acolytes:

Caleb Wheatley & Warren Newkirk (8:00)

Sage Zakrzewski (10:15)

Projectors:

Michaela Smith (8:00)

Matt Tangman (10:15)

Camera:

Jamie Baker

Altar flowers are provided by:

Bill & Judy Wonning

Sunday School Snacks:

Need volunteer

READINGS FOR JANUARY 4:

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Psalms 147:12-20

Ephesians 1:3-14

John 1:1-18

OUR CORE VALUES:

1. **Spirituality** – to worship, grow and develop spiritually as Christians.
2. **Outreach** – to spread the message of God's love and grace by word and action
3. **Service to Others** – to live Christ's message to love one another

You can support the mission of our church by coming to worship, engaging in study, sharing the word, bringing a friend to church, taking part in Care Team initiatives, volunteering at church or in the community and loving one another. We invite you to join us in this journey.

HOW TO CONTACT US:

Office: 522-7364

2nd Line: 522-7484

Pastor Steve: 812-498-7829

Email: stpaul Lutheran@stpaul-borchers.org

Web Site: stpaul-borchers.org

Michelle's office hours:

Monday—8:30-2:30

Wednesday—8:30-2:30

Friday—8:30-12:30

Facebook:

St. Paul Lutheran Church-Borchers

Services are available on YouTube:

St. Paul Lutheran Church-Borchers